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Statement

by

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to the United Nations**

**before the Sixth Committee of the 81st Session
of the United Nations General Assembly**

Agenda Item 84

The rule of law at the national and international levels

7 - 8 October 2026, New York

Madam Chair,

1. As this is Thailand's first time taking the floor, let me warmly congratulate you and the Bureau on your election. You can count on Thailand's full support.

2. We align ourselves with the statement delivered by Singapore on behalf of ASEAN and thank the Secretary-General for his comprehensive report.

Madam Chair,

3. **The rule of law remains the bedrock of peaceful relations among States** and is essential to achieving sustainable development, particularly Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda. While our discussion here focuses on the international dimension, the same commitment must also be reflected at home.

4. **Thailand has recently strengthened our domestic legal protections through the Act on Protection and Promotion of the Way of Life of Ethnic Groups**, which entered into force in September 2025. The Act protects the cultural and livelihood rights of ethnic communities and ensures they have a meaningful voice in decisions that affect their lives.

5. We have also strengthened our domestic mechanisms for implementing international law. In 2025, Thailand convened the first meeting of our **National Committee on International Humanitarian Law**, which considered establishing a sub-committee to examine specific legal issues, including Thailand's prospective accession to additional IHL instruments.

6. Turning to this year's subtopic, Thailand greatly values the relationship between this Committee and the International Law Commission. For nearly eighty years, our two bodies have worked together to advance the progressive development and codification of international law. The Commission brings independent technical expertise, while the Sixth Committee brings the practical realities and diverse perspectives of Member States.

7. At a time when respect for international law is increasingly tested, our task is not only to develop the law, but also **to make sure that it is understood, implemented, and applied consistently**. The credibility of the international legal order depends not only on the rules we develop, but also on our collective commitment to uphold them in practice. **Closer cooperation between the Commission and the Sixth Committee can help bridge this gap between law and practice.**

8. **We see the value of this partnership clearly in treaty-making.** The Commission's draft articles on crimes against humanity and on the protection of persons in the event of disasters now provide important bases for the work of Conferences of Plenipotentiaries.

9. Thailand attaches particular importance to this process. We have been actively engaged in developing **the future convention on the protection of persons in the event of disasters**, including through our role in the **Preparatory Committee** and **our forthcoming hosting of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries.**

10. This year, the Commission also recommended the elaboration, at an appropriate time, of a convention based on its draft articles on the immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction.

Madam Chair,

11. **To strengthen this partnership further, we need more continuous and substantive dialogue.** National jurisprudence and practical feedback provide valuable State practice that can inform the Commission's legal reasoning. Thailand therefore supports more regular interaction between Commission members and Sixth Committee delegates, including through informal exchanges during International Law Week and on other appropriate occasions.

12. **It is equally important that this cooperation truly reflects the global community.** International law draws its legitimacy from diverse legal traditions and geographical realities. **Thailand therefore strongly supports the Commission's new working group on cooperation with regional legal bodies, as well as its ongoing**

dialogue with the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO), which we are proud to see currently led by a Thai national.

13. True representation also requires greater gender parity in our international legal institutions. Thailand remains committed to championing the equal participation of highly qualified women across international legal institutions, including the International Law Commission. **Greater gender parity brings diverse perspectives and experiences that enrich the development and application of international law.**

Madam Chair,

14. When the Commission listens closely and the Committee engages actively, we develop international law that better serves everyone.

15. Thailand attaches particular importance to this dialogue, both through our active engagement in the Sixth Committee and as a country whose nationals have long contributed to international legal institutions, including through the service of Dr. Vilawan Mangklatanakul on the International Law Commission.

16. Thailand stands ready to work with all delegations to keep the dialogue between the Sixth Committee and the Commission **effective, inclusive, and responsive.**

17. Through stronger cooperation, we can help ensure that international law not only continues to develop, but also **responds to contemporary realities and command respect in practice – strengthening the rule of law for the international community as a whole.**

I thank you.

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